

Message Text

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65

ACTION HEW-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 INR-07 IO-11 MED-02 NSAE-00

PA-01 DHA-02 SCA-01 OES-03 USIA-06 PRS-01 CIAE-00

AID-05 FDRE-00 DODE-00 AGR-05 TRSE-00 EB-07 COME-00

SSO-00 /068 W

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R 271756Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7240

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PASS AGRICULTURE FOR MANNION, FAS & CHALOUX, APHIS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR/FR

SUBJECT: TRICHINOSIS OUTBREAK IN FRANCE

1. REPORTEDLY FOR FIRST TIME IN 100 YEARS, AN OUTBREAK
47 CASES TRICHINOSIS OCCURRED JUST SOUTH OF PARIS. FIRST
REPORTS JANUARY 25 SAID CAUSE WAS INSUFFICIENTLY COOKED
PORK. HOWEVER, THE NEXT DAY, PRESS REPORTS INDICATED
NATIONAL SYNDICATE PORK DEALERS HAD DENIED THAT PORK IN
FRANCE CARRIED TRICHINOSIS CYSTS AND LAID BLAME ON IM-
PORTED HORSEMEAT.

2. WE HAVE LEARNED DISCUSSIONS WITH OTHER AGRICULTURAL
ATTACHES THAT FRENCH VET SERVICE INVESTIGATING THIS MAT-
TER HAS FOUND THAT ALL VICTIMS HAD EATEN HORSEMEAT ORI-
GINATING FROM IMPORTED RUSSIAN HORSES.

3. WE HAVE NOT DISCUSSED THIS DIRECTLY WITH THE FRENCH
VET SERVICE AND DO NOT INTEND TO UNLESS FUTURE PROBLEMS
SHOULD ARISE. IN MEANTIME, WE BELIEVE IT USEFUL
IF YOU WOULD ADVISE US WHETHER IT IS INDEED POSSIBLE FOR
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HORSES TO CARRY TRICHINOSIS AND WHETHER EPIDEMIC COULD

ARISE FROM EATING HORSEMEAT. IN THIS CONNECTION, IT SHOULD BE RECOGNIZED FRENCH PREFER HORSEMEAT STEAKS VERY RARE AND BEST BEEF TARTAR (RAW GROUND BEEF WITH CONDIMENTS) IS USUALLY PREPARED FROM HORSEMEAT.

4. GIVEN THE PROBLEMS OF RESTRICTIONS ON IMPORTS OF HORSEMEAT DURING LAST QUARTER OF 1975, THIS COULD BE PARTICULARLY DELICATE MATTER AND WE SEEK ABOVE INFORMATION IN CASE VET RESTRICTIONS SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ON U.S. IMPORTS. WE WILL WATCH THIS MATTER CLOSELY AND REPORT IF THE GOF REACTS AGAINST LIVE HORSE IMPORTS FROM USSR OR AGAINST OTHER IMPORTS.
GAMMON

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: morefirh
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Disposition History: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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04 MAY 2006

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